farm families to grow fruit plants in rural areas under the scheme 'Establishment of nutritional garden in rural areas'. In order to create storage infrastructure the Government of India through National Horticulture Board (NHB) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) is providing soft loan and normal loan respectively for post harvest infrastructure including cold storage units directly to the beneficiaries of different State/UTs.

News-item regarding inteview for Devdasis

1953 SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report captioned "Women turn up for devdasi interview" which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 12th September, 1995; and

(b) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (KUMARI VIMLA VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government views with utmost concern the exploitation of women through temple dedication. To eradicate this evil practice the Government has taken many steps including launching awarenss generation programmes for bringing about changes in the societal attitudes towards women. Central Government has also requested the State Governments where this traditional practice of dedication of women as Devdasis, Basavis, Jogins etc. is found to enact/review laws or frame rules relating to Devdasi Prohibition and rehabilitation.

Projection for Human Resource Requirement of the Country

1954. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any projection of country's human resource requirements for the future;

(b) whether there is any mechanism to maintain a balance between the future requirements of skilled qualified personnel and intake of students to variouscourses in the Institutions for higher education; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) The National Technical Manpower Information System (NTMIS) developed by the Institute of Applied Manpower Research estimates requirements of technical manpower at degree and dimploma levels and provides necessary inputs to the concerned authorities like All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to regulate the supply of technical manpower.

State Level Committees constituted by AICTE for this purpose also make projections of human resource requirements in technical subjects with a view to maintaining a balance between the demand and supply of manpower of skilled qualified personnel.